LETTERS@METRO.US

CELTICS BACK ON TRACK? {page 24}

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BOSTON
Monday, November 05, 2012

Back to look for toys in the attic

- Aerosmith returns to their old Commonwealth Ave. apartment to give a free performance today
- Location supposed to remain a secret but the cat's out of the bag
- Band will promote new album, encourage people to vote {page 02}

ERIN BALDASSARI AND GETTY IMAGES

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Secret location? Dream on: Aerosmith to rock out on Commonwealth Avenue

- Bad Boys of Boston to visit former Allston apartment, play free concert
- 'Pre-Election Day party' to promote voting and the band's new album

Earlier this month, it was announced that Boston-born megaband Aerosmith planned to put on a free concert "somewhere in the city" at noon today, with plans not to reveal the location until this morning.

But that all changed thanks to traffic and MBTA advisories warning commuters of a "special event" happening on Commonwealth Avenue — between Harvard Avenue and Allston Street. And if that wasn't enough to help melt the ice fans were kept on, the band went ahead and told Matt Lauer on the Today Show.

"They've been wanting to turn our apartment where we started the band into a landmark or something, so they're going to put a plaque up there, at 1325 Comm. Ave in Boston," Joe Perry said on The Today Show Friday. "We're going to show up and wave and all that, and we may actually pick up our guitars and play a couple of songs."

Mayor Thomas M. Menino's Press Secretary Dot Joyce confirmed that the address will be immortalized today.

"They'll be a plaque unveiling that Mayor Menino will attend," she said, and when asked about the location of the surprise show leaking days ahead of time, Joyce said, "It's a little bit more of a challenge these days, but that's OK. It's all about celebrating Boston's own bad boys."

There are also reports that the band members will create handprints in cement on the sidewalk.

In addition to the dedication of the band's first apartment, the show will also promote their 15th studio album and encourage people to vote in Tuesday's election.

The band's message: "Get out and vote! For whomever you like."

Perry said in a press release announcing the show that, "Anyone who votes is a Freedom Fighter," a nod to Aerosmith's new album, 'Music From Another Dimension!,' which features a track called "Freedom Fighter."

Patriotism aside, the event is expected to cause major traffic tie-ups and MBTA delays.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
morgan.rousseau@metro.us

ERIK BALDASSARI/METRO

▶ Aerosmith once lived here; now they will perform here.

"They've been wanting to turn our apartment where we started the band into a landmark or something, so they're going to put a plaque up there, at 1325 Comm. Ave in Boston."
JOE PERRY ON THE TODAY SHOW

WAAF reacts

The rock radio station had been tight-lipped on the surprise performance, which the station is sponsoring.

On Friday, WAAF Program Director Ron Valeri told a local news station:

"(They) frankly asked us to be quiet, and then they went and announced it on network TV this morning, but that's their prerogative."

Prepare for rockin' reroutes and parking restrictions:

- Between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m., no traffic will be allowed on Commonwealth Avenue, between Harvard Avenue and Allston Street.
- The inbound detour route will be Allston Street to Brighton Avenue at Packard's Corner.
- The outbound detour route will be Brighton Avenue at Packard's Corner.
- Temporary parking restrictions could get you towed or ticketed at Commonwealth Avenue, and nearby parts of Long Avenue and Spofford Road between 6 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- The Green Line B-Branch will be suspended between Washington Street and Packard's Corner from 10:30 a.m. until 3 p.m.

In the news

3.3M

MassVOTE predicted that roughly 200,000 more people will cast ballots in 2012 than in 2008.

During the last election, Massachusetts set an all-time voter turnout record when 3.1 million people cast ballots. MassVOTE said data indicates the likelihood that about 3.3 million people will come out to vote this week. METRO

Today's local tweet

"Lets go to brunch in #southie on Sunday but make sure you don't look hungover, your about to see 100 people you know #massholeproblems"

@MASSHOLEPROBLEM ON SOUTHIE, WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR NAME

In the news

Bulger hospitalized with chest pains

BOSTON. James "Whitey" Bulger, the alleged mob boss who is set to go to trial next year, was reportedly being treated at a Boston hospital last night.

Bulger, 83, was taken from the Plymouth County Correction Facility, where he is being held, to Boston Medical Center Sunday afternoon, according to WBZ-TV. He apparently complained of chest pains, WBZ reported.

Officials from the U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Marshals Service said they could not comment.

Bulger is awaiting trial after living on the run for more than a decade. He was arrested last year in Santa Monica.

A judge is expected to rule this week on whether to again delay Bulger's trial at his attorney's request. METRO

Two stabbed near Public Garden

BOSTON. Two men were being treated for stab wounds yesterday after an incident near the Public Garden.

Police responded to 74 Beacon St., at about 1:30 a.m., for a report of a stabbing and found two victims, according to WCVB.

One was taken to Massachusetts General Hospital and the other to Tufts Medical Center. Their injuries were considered not life-threatening.

Police were investigating yesterday how the stabbings occurred. METRO

Arguments expected this week in Cahill corruption trial

MASSACHUSETTS. Opening arguments in the corruption trial of former state treasurer Tim Cahill are expected to take place this week.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Cahill

Hurricane Sandy delayed the start of the trial, which has so far consisted of jury selection.

Jury selection is expected to continue this week with opening statements coming as early as this afternoon or Tuesday.

Cahill, of Quincy, was indicted earlier this year on charges of violating the state ethics law, conspiracy to violate the state ethics law, procurement fraud and conspiracy to commit procurement fraud.

He is accused of using about 75 percent of the lottery's $2 million ad budget to run ads in the final months of the 2010 election during which he ran for governor.

SHNS/METRO

Climate change debate left in Sandy's wake

In Massachusetts, Sandy may be remembered more for her effects on the climate change movement rather than her destruction ◐ Hurricane Sandy also forces talk of environment

Fortunately for the Bay State, Sandy's destruction was aimed away from Massachusetts, but that doesn't mean she left the Boston area without stirring up anything.

Environmental groups joined U.S. Rep. Ed Markey yesterday for what they called an "emergency meeting" to discuss climate change.

The meeting, held at Arlington Town Hall, attracted more than 200 people and at times felt like a rally, with attendees passing out fliers and the audience clapping and cheering during speeches about climate change efforts and legislation.

It was the latest example of how Sandy was being used by politicians to link severe weather to climate change.

Markey urged those in attendance to not let Sandy leave the region without leaving behind a lesson.

"This is basically our moment; our educational moment. This is not unlike 9/11 when we received a warning and now we have to put in place the protections," said Markey, later adding, "If we don't take advantage of this opportunity to supercharge the issue so it's injected into the national dialogue, then we lose the opportunity."

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ Sandy brought down trees across the region, like this one in seen Cambridge the day after the storm.

He warned that if a storm like Sandy were to hit Boston, landmarks like Faneuil Hall, Fort Point and the Back Bay would be devastated.

"It's called the Back Bay for a good reason. That land is all filled in and it would return to its natural identity," said Markey, who is the leading Democrat on the House Committee on Natural Resources.

Markey pointed to solutions including ensuring that both the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration are fully funded.

Kevin Knobloch, the president of the Union of Concerned Scientists, said a missing piece to the solution of climate change is overwhelming political demand.

"Climate scientists are often reluctant to connect any single weather event to climate change. But what they will say is that … ocean temperatures are rising, tropical storms get their energy from the temp of the ocean when they form; we're seeing more intense storms," he said.

MICHAEL NAUGHTON
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Quoted

"Hurricane Sandy is our Great Boston Fire. We need to read that as the call to action and the call to reform and we need to step forward in a way that we, frankly, have not fully, yet."

KEVIN KNOBLOCH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNION OF CONCERNED SCIENTISTS

Sandy's climate change popular

New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo touched on climate change last week.

"Anyone who thinks that there is not a dramatic change in weather patterns is denying reality," Cuomo said, according to the New York Times. "We have a new reality, and old infrastructures and old systems."

New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg said last week that he will be voting for President Barack Obama in part because of his stance on climate change.

"Our climate is changing. And while the increase in extreme weather we have experienced in New York City and around the world may or may not be the result of it, the risk that it might be — given this week's devastation — should compel all elected leaders to take … action."

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News in brief

Dead whale is finally buried

ROCKPORT. A whale carcass that has washed up on beaches across Massachusetts has finally been buried.

The 55-foot whale was spotted floating in Boston Harbor early last month. It washed up on Rainsford Island near Hull shortly after, but was then carried back out to sea by the tide.

It then found its way to Rockport where it briefly washed up near Pebble Beach before finally coming to a rest on Cape Hedge Beach in the same town.

On Thursday, volunteers and crews buried the remains of the whale under a gravel parking lot at the beach, according to the Globe.

A state scientist collected the bones from the whale, which may eventually be put on display. **BOSTON.COM**

Another poll shows Warren in lead

MASSACHUSETTS. A recently conducted poll shows that Democrat Elizabeth Warren is leading Sen. Scott Brown with just days to go before the election.

The poll of more than 1,000 likely voters, conducted by Public Policy Polling, showed that Warren leads Brown 52 to 46, according to the Globe. **GLOBE**

Inmate walks away from work detail

NORFOLK. A man convicted in an armed burglary walked away from a prison work detail and triggered a regional manhunt just before 1 p.m. Friday.

Juan Lugo, 45, previously of Holyoke, was recaptured about five hours after he escaped, officials said. He will be moved to a higher security facility.

Lugo was serving a 12- to 14-year jail term and was eligible for parole in 2015. **GLOBE**

'The race must go on'

Boston man runs canceled NYC marathon alone in the Hub ◗ Boston College alum raised $3K for veterans charity ◗ Supporters line race route

▶ P.J. Driscoll didn't let Hurricane Sandy stop him from running a marathon.

Unwilling to let Hurricane Sandy wash away months of training and fundraising, a North End resident who was set to run in the canceled ING New York City Marathon made the race go on here in Boston — it was just a few thousand people short.

"I committed to a lot of people that I would run a marathon. I wanted to be able to say at the end of the day that I fulfilled my commitment," P.J. Driscoll told Metro yesterday, hours after his 26-mile solo-run.

The 2009 Boston College alum started training for the marathon on July 1, and has since raised about $3,000 for the Pat Tillman Foundation, an organization that gives scholarships to veterans and their families.

So he ran The Boston Marathon route alone — for the most part. A few family members and friends jumped in at times, while others surprised him along the way, offering unexpected but welcome support.

Quoted

"A marathon is no easy feat and he made it look effortless. He is truly an inspiring friend."

THOMAS O'DONNELL, DRISCOLL'S LONGTIME FRIEND

"My friend (Thomas O'Donnell) coordinated a bunch of people to come. That was kind of the coolest part. It actually made a big difference because I pretty much planned on doing this alone."

Driscoll made the trek down to New York City for the marathon last week, and got news that it was canceled while at a bar.

"I think they made right decision about marathon — it just should have been made earlier," he said.

He said the idea of running a marathon in a city that was so obviously devastated by the storm gave him the chills, anyway, so it was no problem for him to head back to the Hub to do the run.

"I don't know if guilt is the right word, but there was something definitely unsettling about starting the race that close to something that was so horrible. In the back of my mind, I knew that if I hadn't gone to New York, I was going to run on my own anyway."

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'Choo Choo' the abandoned MBCR turtle is adopted

After being deserted on a commuter rail train, reptile finds new home with Brighton science teacher

A turtle learned the hard way last week that sometimes home is not always where the shell is.

The tiny creature was found Tuesday afternoon on a Providence/Stoughton commuter train at South Station.

"We thought it was lost, but found out it was abandoned. We're looking for a good home," Massachusetts Bay Commuter Rail Company Spokeswoman Rhiannon D'Angelo said last week.

Although nobody came to claim "Choo Choo" at the South Station Lost and Found, a little help from Twitter prompted offers from about 50 of animal lovers who wanted to take the reptile in, but on Friday, the turtle was given to a science teacher from Mary Lyon School in Brighton.

COURTESY/MBCR

▶ 'Choo Choo' was named by the transit employees who found him.

"We're happy to report that (Choo Choo) was picked up, and is going to a science classroom to live among other reptiles," D'Angelo said, adding that in the search for a new home, the MBCR reached out to officials at the New England Aquarium, who said that it is not uncommon for reptile owners to put out the scaly and shelled creatures.

"Apparently (reptiles) are hard to care for, so people often try to release them into the wild," D'Angelo said, adding that it is uncommon for a creature to show up unattended on the commuter trains.

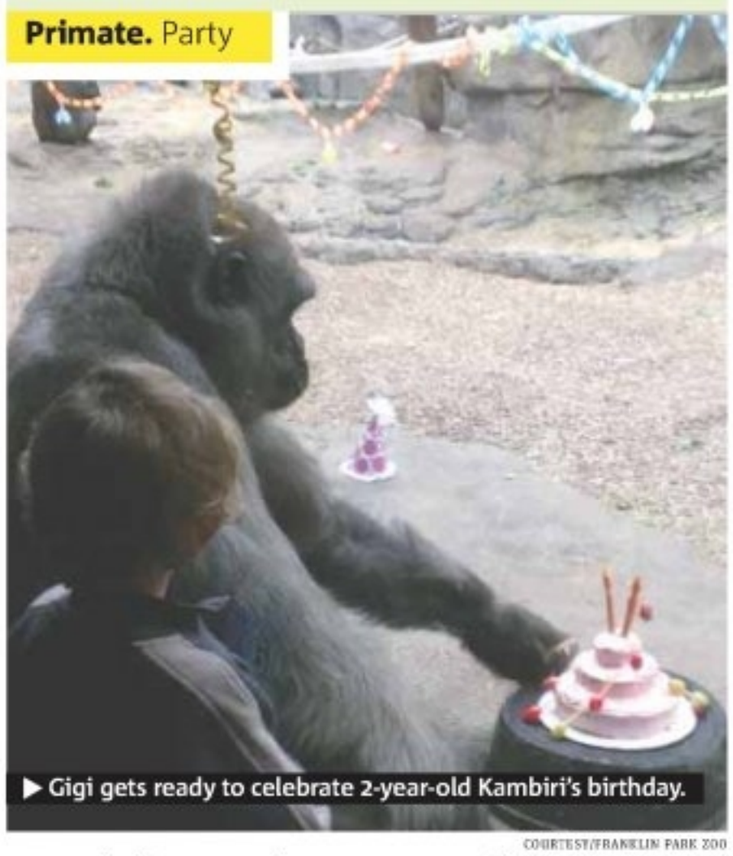
"It was definitely a rare event. Of course it's sad that (Choo Choo) was left there, but we were happy to help make sure he was safe for a couple of days."

D'Angelo said it was unclear how the animal picked up his locomotive-inspired name last week, but said it picked up steam as he was being cared for by transit employees.

"We were calling him Choo Choo, as in choo-choo train."

There is no word on whether the animal will keep his new name. METRO/MR

Primate. Party



▶ Gigi gets ready to celebrate 2-year-old Kambiri's birthday.

COURTESY/FRANKLIN PARK ZOO

Franklin Park Zoo gorilla turns 2

It was a primate party at the Franklin Park Zoo yesterday as one of the zoo's youngest gorillas celebrated her birthday. Kambiri, the youngest of the eight western lowland gorillas at the zoo, turned 2 years old. In honor of her birthday, the gorillas were given special treats. METRO

News in brief

Company that backed out of MBTA contract to pay $7.3 million

A Cincinnati-based transportation company will pay $7.3 million to settle allegations that it backed out of a contract with the MBTA to run "The Ride," its paratransit service for the elderly and people with disabilities.

Attorney General Martha Coakley said Friday that her office filed court papers that resolve allegations that First Transit violated the Massachusetts Consumer Protection Act when it breached a contract with the MBTA to operate The Ride.

"When First Transit backed out of the contract ... it hurt the T's ability to serve the customers who rely on its services and left all taxpayers footing the bill," Coakley said. "This settlement will bring millions of dollars back to Commonwealth's taxpayers that deserve the best in public transportation." METRO

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Facebook faces denial of service attack today by Anonymous group

GETTY IMAGES

▶ A billion users could be affected by the planned attack.

One of the biggest cyber crimes in history is planned for today, Nov. 5, with hacker collective Anonymous vowing to take down Facebook and game site Zynga, affecting more than a billion users. The hacktivist group has claimed the attack is revenge for the firing of 1,000 employees.

"It would most likely be a DoS (denial of service) attack, firing high traffic at the site to bring it down," Chris Grant, freelance penetration specialist, told Metro. "Both the site and the server are vulnerable and it is much more difficult to defend a site than attack it."

The attack could also take the form of malware planting or data theft, and the multiple threats possibilities are difficult to guard against. "We can't suggest precautions against something that is unknown and undefined," Graham Cluley, senior technology consultant at Sophos security said, adding that they would be providing advice from today should the attack happen.

But by then it could be too late. "I would suggest Facebook users to go through their profiles and delete anything they would worry about getting out," Meghan Kelly, security expert for technology blog Venture Beat, told Metro. "Facebook holds enough data to answer any security question about you; it should be up there with bank account for privacy consideration."

Tips for shutdown

- Delete your history — your browser caches a surprising amount of personal information.
- Upgrade your password to something more complex
- Remove and store any pictures precious to you — anything can be stolen.
- Increased bandwidth can protect against a DoS attack.
- Get some air — there's more to life than Facebook.

Anonymous threatened the site on the same date last year — Guy Fawkes Night, celebrating a popular icon of the group — but the attack was not carried out. But Kelly believes it would be unwise to overlook the threat: "We don't know what they are capable of — they have already taken down the CIA website."

But the group have been criticized for a hypocritical attack the social network. "Facebook is a platform for spreading information — it's like cutting off the branch you're sitting on," said Mohit Kumar, founder of security blog Hacker News.

Facebook was unavailable for comment. MWN

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Is there any defense against the unknown enemy?

News in brief

US soldier accused in Afghan rampage faces court hearing

SEATTLE. A U.S. Army soldier accused of gunning down 16 Afghan villagers in a drunken rampage will face the military version of a preliminary hearing today to determine if there is sufficient evidence to send him to a court martial.

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert Bales, a decorated veteran of four combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan who could face the death penalty if convicted, is accused of walking off his base under cover of darkness and opening fire on civilians in their homes in at least two villages in March.

The shooting of mostly women and children in Afghanistan's Kandahar province marked the worst civilian slaughter by U.S. forces since the Vietnam War and eroded already strained U.S.-Afghan ties after over a decade of conflict in the country. REUTERS

16

Counts of premeditated murder and six counts of attempted murder, as well as charges of assault and wrongfully possessing and using steroids and alcohol while deployed, are the charges Bales faces.

Police helicopter crash kills two

ATLANTA. An Atlanta police helicopter scouring the city in a search for a missing 9-year-old child crashed on Saturday night, killing two police officers, police said.

"One of our helicopters went down and two officers were killed," police spokesman Carlos Campos said without elaborating. No other injuries were reported.

A local NBC affiliate quoted witnesses as saying the helicopter had been flying low and clipped power lines before the crash, causing an outage across the local area. REUTERS

Britain wants reform of EU cohesion funds

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Cameron

Britain will demand changes to the European Union's regional development funds in budget talks this month, including stripping wealthier nations of access to money intended to help poorer areas, the Sunday Telegraph reported.

Prime Minister David Cameron's government suffered an embarrassing defeat in parliament this week when anti-E.U. members of his Conservative party teamed up with the opposition to demand a cut in the E.U. budget.

But Cameron, aware that a real-terms cut could be hard to win in Brussels, is instead pushing for a real-terms freeze in the budget, which would allow it to rise in line with inflation.

The Conservative-led coalition government also believes changes to the regional development funds are achievable, the Telegraph reported, citing a high-level, unnamed source as saying. The prime minister's office declined to comment on the report.

Calling for changes to the way these "structural and cohesion" funds — the second-biggest item in the budget — are managed may pacify some Conservative "euroskeptics" who want a looser relationship with Europe based on trade ties.

The European Commission wants 376 billion euros ($483 billion) from member states in the 2014-2020 period for the E.U.'s cohesion funds, which are intended to help level out wealth inequality across the 27-nation bloc.

Some vulnerable areas in Britain such as Cornwall in the south west and Wales receive funding from that development pot. REUTERS

$5.5B

Britain was the fourth-biggest net contributor to the EU budget last year with an overall donation of 5.5 billion euros.

EU leaders to meet this month

European leaders will meet on Nov. 22-23 to thrash out a deal. Cameron has said he wants to reach an agreement but is prepared to use Britain's veto if his demands are not met.

Budget battle

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- The European Commission wants 376 billion euros ($483 billion) from member states in the 2014-2020 period for the EU's cohesion funds, which are intended to help level out wealth inequality across the 27-nation bloc.
- Some vulnerable areas in Britain such as Cornwall in the south west and Wales receive funding from that development pot.

Small child mauled to death by African wild dogs at Pittsburgh zoo

A small boy was mauled to death after falling into an African wild dog enclosure at the Pittsburgh Zoo & PPG Aquarium, the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette reported on Sunday.

The newspaper said the child was about 3 years old and was on an outing with his mother when he fell over a railing and off a mesh barrier into the area where 11 of the animals — known as African painted dogs — were on display.

Zoo keepers cleared some of the dogs away and tried to frighten away others by firing darts at them but were unable to reach the child until after police shot and killed one especially aggressive dog, the newspaper said.

The zoo was closed until further notice, it said.

Zoo officials did not immediately return messages seeking comment, and Pittsburgh police said they had no information. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ African painted dog

Painted dogs

African painted dogs are an endangered species native to sub-Saharan Africa and their scientific name, Lycaon pictus, means "painted wolf," according to the National Geographic website. Also known as Cape hunting dogs, they are long-legged and have irregularly mottled coats with patches of red, black, brown, white and yellow fur.

In the news

Iran steps up naval force in Gulf islands row

TEHRAN. Iran will increase its naval presence in the Persian Gulf to strengthen its authority over three islands which the United Arab Emirates says are its territory, Tehran said yesterday.

The islands sit near oil shipping routes at the mouth of the strategic Strait of Hormuz and the challenge over their sovereignty is a constant threat to Iran's fragile relations with its Arab neighbors.

"The security of the Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf is part of the various strategies of the naval force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps," IRGC Commander Mohammad Ali Jafari said, according to the website of state television IRIB.

Jafari was speaking at a ceremony inaugurating a fifth "naval defense zone" at the port of Bandar Lengeh. He said the IRGC was "increasing, expanding and improving the expert capability in naval defense" in the five zones.

"The fifth zone of the Guards' naval force is one of the naval defense chains which is in particular responsible for the defense of the Iranian islands in the Persian Gulf," he said.

The 41-year-old dispute between Shi'ite Muslim Iran and the Sunni UAE over the islands — Greater and Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa — has nationalist and ethnic overtones and was inflamed when President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad visited Abu Musa in April. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Iranian navy

In the news

Mixed news on pre-election jobs report

NEW YORK. American employers hired more workers than forecast in October while an influx of people joining the labor force pushed the jobless rate higher, according to the last job market report before the presidential election.

Payrolls expanded by 171,000 workers following a 148,000 gain in September that was bigger than first estimated, figures from the Labor Department showed yesterday. October's increase exceeded the highest forecast in a Bloomberg survey with a median projection of 125,000. Unemployment rose to 7.9 percent. **BLOOMBERG**

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▶ "Watauga, TN" is by Vera Krapf, Brooklyn, N.Y.

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In the news

Northeast power outages fall below 2 million

NEW YORK. The number of homes and businesses still without power a week after Hurricane Sandy fell to 1.9 million yesterday morning, down from 2.5 million the previous afternoon, although a quarter of New Jersey and almost a tenth of New York remained in the dark, the Department of Energy said.

At its peak, more than 8.5 million customers were without power. **REUTERS**

Cold hits storm victims ahead of Election Day

ALLISON JOYCE/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Kathy Lahey sifts through the remains of her home yesterday in the Breezy Point neighborhood in Queens.

A housing crisis loomed in New York City as victims of superstorm Sandy struggled yesterday against near-freezing temperatures and officials fretted that displaced voters would not be able to cast ballots in tomorrow's presidential election.

Fuel shortages and power outages lingered nearly a week after one of the worst storms in U.S. history flooded homes in coastal neighborhoods, leaving many without heat and in need of shelter.

"People are in homes that are uninhabitable," New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo said alongside Mayor Michael Bloomberg at a news conference. "People don't like to leave their home, but the reality is going to be in the temperature."

Officials were figuring out how to provide short- and long-term housing for tens of thousands of people, Cuomo said, without giving details about where the displaced would be housed.

An early-season "Nor'easter" storm was expected to hit the battered New England coast this week with strong winds and heavy rain.

Fuel supplies continued to rumble toward disaster zones and electricity was slowly returning to darkened neighborhoods, after the storm hit the coast last Monday.

It would be days before power is fully restored and fuel shortages end, Bloomberg said. Cuomo said fuel shortages are improving but problems will persist for "a number of days." **REUTERS**

40K

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said 30,000 to 40,000 people in New York City alone would need housing.

111

Deaths overall, at least, in the U.S. from super storm Sandy. Two more bodies were found in New Jersey yesterday.

39°

Was the temperature early yesterday morning in New York City

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Mail-in ballot woes

Hanging chads of Election 2012?

Sloppy signatures on mail-in ballots might prove to be this year's hanging chads.

As Republicans and Democrats raise alarms about potential voter fraud and voter suppression, mail-in ballots have boomed as an uncontroversial form of convenient, inexpensive voting.

In the critical swing states of Ohio and Florida, more than a fifth of voters chose the mail-in option 2010. In Colorado, the number was nearly two-thirds. But there may be controversy to come. For a variety of reasons, mail-in ballots are much more likely to be rejected than conventional, in-person votes. With the razor-close presidential election tomorrow riding on a few tens of thousands of votes in a handful of states, the election could be decided by election officials' judgments about mail-in ballot signatures. **REUTERS**

Romney, Obama in dead heat two days before the election

The race between President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney remained in a dead heat ahead of tomorrow's election, according to a Reuters/Ipsos daily tracking poll released yesterday.

Of 3,805 likely voters polled nationally, 48 percent said they would vote for Democrat Obama, while 47 percent sided with Romney, a former Massachusetts governor, the poll showed. The results fall within the poll's credibility interval.

Obama and Romney have been locked in a neck-and-neck race for weeks. Over the weekend, both were making final appearances in a few crucial states, hoping to sway a shrinking number of undecided voters and to encourage their supporters to get to the polls. **REUTERS**

CHIP SOMODEVILLA/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Obama does some last-minute campaigning.

"I don't think we can count any of them in the bag yet. The electoral map does favor Obama. It's just so on a razor's edge."
IPSOS POLLSTER JULIA CLARK

THE WORLD'S US ELECTION:
What if the rest of the planet could vote?
If the world voted, Obama would trounce Romney 10 to 1, the Governor is haughty and the President is modest... that's how the world thinks US politics
The Metropolitan Panel surveyed thousands of respondents across 11 countries how non-Americans perceive the election
GLOBAL BALLOT: OBAMA 80%, ROMNEY 8%
CANADA NETHERLANDS SWEDEN DENMARK RUSSIA HUNGARY
MEXICO CHILE ITALY FRANCE HONG KONG
OBAMA VOTES
AMERICA FEEBLE UNDER ROMNEY
Despite the Governor's bellicose foreign policy rhetoric, 48% of respondents reckon the United States would be seen as weaker under Romney
ROMNEY
PERSONALITY what participants think
72% arrogant
65% insulated
US STRONGER IF OBAMA RE-ELECTED
Almost two-thirds of those surveyed (64%) think America will be more stable with Obama as president
OBAMA
PERSONALITY what participants think
humble
open and broad-minded

14K

Ohio rejected more than 14,000 mail-in ballots in 2010, or 1.7 percent of those sent in domestically, and Florida rejected close to 18,000, or 1.4 percent, according to the Electoral Assistance Commission survey.

4

Neither candidate holds a significant edge in the four battleground states. Obama is ahead by one point in Colorado three points in Virginia. Romney is up by two points in Colorado. They are tied in Florida. **REUTERS**

Metropolitik

CONN CARROLL
SENIOR EDITORIAL WRITER, THE WASHINGTON EXAMINER

THERE'S NO WHERE TO HIDE FROM US POLITICS AS USUAL

It's not every day that a four-year-old girl from Fort Collins, Colo., manages to articulate what every other American is thinking. But that is exactly what happened last week when a YouTube video captured Abigael Evans telling her mother she was crying "because I'm tired of Bronco Bama and Mitt Romney."

We all are, sweetie. "It'll be over soon, Abby," her mother replies. "The election will be over soon," Which is exactly what you'd expect a comforting mother to say. Problem is, if Obama wins next Tuesday, it won't be over.

Sure, there will be a pause if Obama does manage to become the first president in U.S. history to win re-election by a smaller margin in his second election than in his first. But the pause will be brief. That's because there are a slew of major policy changes set to occur Jan. 1 that almost everybody believes would lead to economic catastrophe, should they occur on schedule.

Taxes are set to go up on Americans at all income levels by almost $500 billion. A swift $60 billion cut in defense spending will cost thousands of jobs. Cuts to doctors' Medicare reimbursement payments will make it much harder for those enrolled in the program to get physicians to see them.

Keep in mind that Obama either created, or signed extension for, every single one of the expiring policies that comprise this "fiscal cliff." It is an impending economic and political disaster of his own creation.

After Obama tried to disown the spending cuts during his final debate with Mitt Romney, the Washington Post's Bob Woodward gently reminded him that the policy came from his own White House. "It's a complicated process — and in fairness to the president — maybe he didn't know that they were doing this because it's kind of technical budget jargon," Woodward told Politico. "What I've reported is totally accurate."

So how will the "fiscal cliff" be solved if Obama wins? No one knows. Obama will try and claim the American people gave him a mandate for his preferred policies. But if the Republicans maintain control of the House, as almost everyone expects them to do, they will have just as strong a mandate for their preferred policies. The election will have settled nothing. The never-ending campaign will immediately begin again.

Quoted

Keep in mind that Obama either created, or signed extension for, every single one of the expired policies that comprise this "fiscal cliff." It is an impending economic and political disaster of his own creation.

It is no accident that Obama's drive to expand the size and scope of government has led to a never-ending political campaign. If everything is political, everything is part of a campaign. Just look at Obama's signature domestic accomplishment: Obamacare. Did Americans really care what kind of birth control their employers did or did not pay for four years ago? Of course not. Now, not only is it a major part of Obama's stump speech, but it will continue to be an issue in the courts even if Obama wins. When the federal government controls everything that every health insurance company must pay for, then everything that health insurance companies do (and do not) pay for becomes political. Birth control is just the beginning.

This logic extends far beyond health care. What types of energy should we invest in? How should we run our schools? Which transportation projects should we invest in? These are questions that used to be answered either in the private sector or at the state and local levels. Obama has made them all partisan federal government issues. You're either with him or against him on every single one.

Back in 2008, Michelle Obama famously said, "Barack Obama will require you to work. ... Barack will never allow you to go back to your lives as usual, uninvolved, uninformed." She was right. Obama's vision for an activist federal government will not let you rest. It will not let you ever escape politics.

Please Michelle, stop forcing us to campaign for, or against, your husband. Let us, and Abigael get back to our lives as usual.

Metro does not endorse the opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages. Opposing viewpoints are welcome. Send 100-word submissions to letters@metro.us.

Addressing race and class on campus

New book examines the role that socioeconomic background plays at elite universities Race affects experience of low-income students

About five years ago, a student handed Dr. Elizabeth Aries a manuscript and remarked on the expense of the required binder.

"How did you pay for it?" asked Aries.

"I bounced a check at the drug store," the student replied.

"I started to say, 'Wait. What are we doing here?' We're admitting students from low-income backgrounds, but we're not thinking about what kind of experience they're having here," explains Aries, from her home in western Massachusetts.

She quickly set out to investigate the role of class amidst the privilege of Amherst College. Her first study, "Race And Class Matters at an Elite College" featured 58 case studies on students from a vast range of backgrounds, from the children of the 1 percent to students that grew up in poverty. The sequel, "Speaking of Race and Class" — which will be released this month by Temple University Press — revisited almost all of the students at graduation, probing for changes in perspectives.

Among the thought-provoking outcomes, Aries discovered that white students from low-income backgrounds struggled to adjust to Amherst's culture more than African-American students from low-income backgrounds.

"Prep schools and day schools often target academically talented black students for scholarships. The majority of black students on our campus come from those schools, which is a culture very much like Amherst," says Aries. "The lower income white students are coming from public schools, because most private schools aren't giving scholarships to low-income white students. They're coming from predominantly all-white communities in rural areas. They've never been exposed to extremes in wealth, and they don't have any organizations on campus to support them."

Quoted

"I started to say, 'Wait. What are we doing here?' We're admitting students from low-income backgrounds, but we're not thinking about what kind of experience they're having here."

ARIES

BRUCE WALSH
bruce.walsh@metro.us

STOCKBYTE

▶ Adjusting to an elite university is challenging for low-income students, especially those who are white, found the study.

What they found

At the conclusion of the four-year study, more than half the students said they learned a great deal about race in America while at Amherst. But only about a third of whites from affluent backgrounds reported a change in perspective.

"Depending on the field they're interested in, it's possible for affluent whites to go through without much contact with other races," says Aries. "If it's not a priority for them, they're not forced to confront it like other students."

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myentertainment

THE WORD

Metro's **Monica Weymouth** shares her take on the world of gossip @monicaatmetro monica.weymouth@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return on Tuesday.

This week, celebrities care about the world

▶ Will Ferrell has offered to help you move your couch if you vote.

It's going to be a historically quiet week for gossip, kids.

Between the icecaps melting all over the East Coast and the election, no celeb worth their Botox is going to announce a divorce, weight-loss secret, scandalous pregnancy or rehab vacation for at least a week. **Kim Kardashian** tested the waters on Saturday by taking a little bra-less stroll in Miami, but mostly, the rich and famous will have their humanitarian game faces on until further notice.

On the fundraising front, Friday night's super star-studded Hurricane Sandy fundraiser raked in more than $23 million for relief efforts, reports NBCUniversal. Not bad at all, even when you account for additional damage caused by the **Jimmy Fallon** and **Steven Tyler** "Under the Boardwalk" duet.

▶ Break out your Sharpies, friends: This guy needs a hat.

As for democracy cheerleading, **Will Ferrell** has released a video message for the Obama campaign encouraging us to vote. As we are a lazy, apathetic people who would just as soon sleep in and watch "Kathie Lee & Hoda" on Tuesday morning, Ferrell has promised to reward good citizens with home-cooked meals, amateur tattoos and private dance sessions.

We here at The Word would also like you to vote (for real — we're OK people off the clock). Do your civic duty, and we'll replace every **Lohan** item this week with a picture of baby hedgehogs in party hats.

2012 is living up to its rep

One upside to not having power over the weekend: You mercifully missed **Kate Gosselin**'s Twitter feed. Gosselin is using the site to complain about ex-husband **Jon**, who has been allowing their plus-8 kiddos to cuddle with his new girlfriend's pit bull.

Between her musings on fame, fat-free Triscuits, coupons and smiling, Kate's been busy re-tweeting warnings from fans about the "dangerous" breed, which has been known to exploit young defenseless children for fame, money and free plastic surgery. Or was that humans? Either way — there are things to be afraid of out there, people.

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ We actually prefer the meat get-up to this Miller Lite bikini.

Not cool, Gaga

Lady Gaga has dropped the weight she recently put on, but she's still not sure why anyone cared. "I thought, well I don't really care if they think I'm fat because, quite honestly, I did gain about 30 pounds," Gaga tells Stylist UK in an interview. "**Adele** is bigger than me. How come nobody says anything about it?"

Let us explain, Lady: It's mostly because the incredibly classy, talented and beautiful Adele didn't make a name for herself wearing meat lingerie.

Talking points

Leonardo DiCaprio back to scanning the runways

Leonardo DiCaprio has called it quits with yet another fashion model girlfriend, reportedly breaking up with **Erin Heatherton** after about 10 months of dating, according to Us Weekly. "They split a few weeks ago. There's no bad blood, they still care about each other a lot," a source says. "They're both just really busy. They had crazy schedules." DiCaprio previously had long-term relationships with models **Gisele Bundchen** (2001-2005) and **Bar Refaeli** (2006-2011).

▶ Stone

The Spidey love story continues

Emma Stone and her "Amazing Spider-Man" co-star **Andrew Garfield** apparently couldn't be happier together, but that doesn't mean the world should be expecting any engagement news. "There's no rush to get engaged. They are both young and ambitious," a source tells Us Weekly. "They just love spending time together. They are absolutely adorable together."

Bynes moving in on Spears' crown

Amanda Bynes has been accused of engaging in a lot of unstable and unlawful behavior this year, but apparently she draws the line at an In Touch magazine report that she paraded around a New York tanning salon completely naked, telling Celebuzz in a text message, "That's not true, I'll sue." The story claimed that Bynes emerged from a private tanning room completely naked and looking for a pair of goggles. She "didn't seem to care that everyone saw her naked," a source says, adding that Bynes looked "painfully thin" and "out of it."

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

@jimmykimmel
The SkyMall catalogue has gotten so commercialized

@prattprattpratt (Chris Pratt)
Haiku of the day: Jack Daniel's Whiskey. Jack. I love you, Jack. I got your back, Mr. Jack. Forever my boy.

@SteveMartinToGo
I stand by my original apology.

@JohnStamos
i go to tweet something but it all seems so frivolous (even more than usual) when reading about the heartbreaking devastation of #Sandy

@pattonoswalt
I've never gotten over my crush on the charging-towards-the-camera blonde nurse in the opening credits of M*A*S*H.

Pratt

SMOKED SAUSAGE
SMOKIN' TASTY

DUNKIN' DONUTS

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What celebrities were up to this weekend

1. After a delay due to Hurricane Sandy, Brooklyn's new Barclay's Center was host to the Toronto Raptors and the Brooklyn Nets on Saturday. Power couple and Brooklyn land barons **Jay-Z** and **Beyonce** put their hands up in the air like they just don't care.

2. While Bee and Hova left Blue Ivy at home, **Alicia Keys** and partner **Swizz Beatz** had their little one, Egypt Dean, in tow on Friday at the New York Knicks game at Madison Square Garden.

3. A comedian abroad: **Ricky Gervais** and his partner **Jane Fallon** were snapped strolling in Manhattan on Friday.

4. Two extras from "Pirates of the Caribbean," otherwise known as **Steven Tyler** and **Joe Perry** of Aerosmith, mugged for the camera while performing on "The Today Show" on Friday. Seriously, what is going on with Joe Perry's lips in hairy parentheses mustache? If you're in Boston at noon today, you can ask him. [Turn back to page 2 for details.]

5. File this one under "Ewww." **David Hasselhoff** and his girlfriend **Hayley Roberts** took a stroll in The Grove in L.A. on Friday.

6. Meg Ryan and her little girl **Daisy** return from a visit to Michael Kors in Manhattan on Friday.

1, 2. JAMES DEVANEY/FILMMAGIC
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John C. Reilly's midlife crisis

To hear John C. Reilly tell it, "Wreck-It Ralph" — in which he voices the titular video game bad guy who leaves his game on a quest to become a hero instead — is a movie about a midlife crisis. But the folks in marketing at Disney probably don't want to put that on the posters, he admits.

How much of a video game fan were you before this movie?
There's not enough hours in the day these days to play video games, having a family and stuff — especially given how complicated they are. Just learning the game takes hours at this point. But it certainly made a big impact on my life when I was a kid. I'm of a generation that was there when "Space Invaders" first came out.
Is this role in any way a referendum against type-casting?
I guess so. I didn't really think about that when I was making the movie. It was more about this journey that most of us are on, which is to discover who we really are. And then the tough part for most people is accepting who you are, and then just enjoying life once you've done that. So much of what we do in the world is telling us, "You're not good enough, you should improve yourself in this way." ... To me, it's a movie about self-realization and self-acceptance. You don't have to tell the kids that, but for me that's what it's about. It's more like a story of a midlife crisis.
Which is the best way to sell a movie to kids, yes.
Yeah, exactly. "When Mommy and Daddy get older and get closer to death ..." Just kidding.
It's been 15 years since "Boogie Nights" came out.
It has? ... I don't spend too much time watching stuff I've done. ... It just makes you feel old.
I don't think you're old.
Well, I'm older than I was 15 years ago. [Laughs]

GETTY IMAGES

▶ John C. Reilly poses with his counterpart, "Wreck-It Ralph." The film, released Friday, this weekend's top box office draw.

If you could disappear into a game yourself, which would you choose?

To tell you the truth, the idea of being trapped in a video game seems kind of nightmarish to me. [Laughs] I mean, they're all a fight for survival. I think life is enough like that already. That said ... I don't know. I have always wondered what those cherries tasted like in "Pac Man."

NED EHRBAR
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

TV watch list

'Anthony Bourdain: No Reservations'

REALITY. On this food-centric travel show, host Anthony Bourdain was always as hungry for learning how a culture lives, works and finds happiness as he was interested in sampling the local delicacies. The Manhattan-based chef brings it all home for his final episode, traveling across the river to Brooklyn to document the old and the new, comingling deliciously in the borough. **Series finale, 9 p.m., Travel Channel**

'Witness'

DOCUMENTARY. Photojournalists document drug trafficking, gang violence, corruption and ethnic warfare in Mexico, Libya, South Sudan and Brazil in this documentary series telling the personal stories of the photographers who document issues of global importance. **Series premiere, 9 p.m., HBO**

'Jesse James: Outlaw Garage'

REALITY. He can't turn around his image, but Jesse James — still best known as the former Mr. Sandra Bullock — can still overhaul vehicles. Previously the host of Discovery's "Monster Garage," James returns to the network for this series based out of his Austin Speed Shop, where he customizes clients' cars and trucks. **Series premiere, 10 p.m., Discovery**

'Dangerous Grounds'

REALITY. Coffee importer Todd Carmichael, founder of the roaster and cafe chain La Colombe Torrefaction, hosts this new series focused on his search for the highest-grade beans in the world. **Series premiere, 10 p.m., Travel Channel**

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KIM SCHNEIDERMAN, MSW, LCSW

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The question:

About eight weeks ago, I brought my wife to an emergency room. Five days later, she passed away. I'm still severely upset. I've lost my appetite and sleep. I'm constantly nervous. I have no family left and most of my friends are busy. I need support and advice to make it through my depression. Any suggestions?

I'm sorry about your loss. Losing a loved one is one of the most difficult experiences a person can face. Losing a loved one suddenly or unexpectedly is perhaps the worst. In your case, five days is certainly not enough time to emotionally prepare for the impending loss of a life partner. No wonder you're devastated.

You may take some comfort in knowing that your feelings are a natural and understandable response to sudden death. Not only is your illusion of trust in the universe shattered, but also your nervous system hasn't had time to digest the death. This can compromise your coping mechanisms, affecting everything from sleep to appetite. To put it simply, you're in shock.

While eight weeks of feeling miserable may feel like a lifetime, the loss is still fairly fresh. Most people can expect to cycle through several of the stages of grief — denial, sadness, anger, bargaining and acceptance — for at least a year, with symptoms subsiding but lingering much longer. However, those bereaving a sudden loss may feel the pain more acutely and for a longer duration than those who had an opportunity to prepare and say a proper goodbye.

LIFESIZE

▶ Schneiderman says losing a loved one suddenly or unexpectedly is perhaps the worst. Allow yourself time to grieve.

Whether or not you're clinically depressed is actually a subject of public debate. While bereavement has historically been excluded from the diagnosis of Major Depressive Disorder, the most recent draft of the new Diagnostic and Statistics Manual (DSM)-V (the bible of the mental health profession) allows a depressive episode to be diagnosed two weeks after a death. The change is fairly controversial, as many believe that a natural passage of life should not be pathologized.

Regardless of what you call it, there are some things you can do to begin healing:

1 Give yourself permission to grieve. While some people (men especially) may feel the need to put on a brave face, grief is not an emotion that stays repressed for long. Better to grieve now in proximity to the actual loss than years later when it can complicate other aspects of your life and compound the pain of subsequent losses.

2 Attend a bereavement group. Seeking support from others who understand what you're going through can be very comforting, reminding you that you're not alone. You might find such groups through a hospice, religious organization or a community social service agency.

3 Consult a bereavement counselor who can listen, monitor your moods, determine whether you're at risk for depression and potentially refer you to a psychiatrist if medication is necessary.

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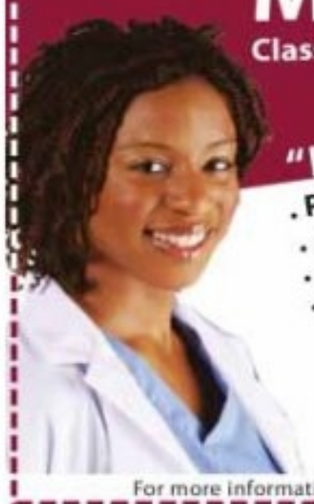

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Letters

letters@metro.us

Even devastation can't make us come together anymore

Y'know, with all the political discussions on Facebook and other media, everyone is so partisan — including me. Nearly everyone spins every fact or near-fact to support their guy or gal and to lambast the other guy.

Even over Hurricane Sandy, which you think would cause us to put all our differences aside to work together, different people treat both Barack Obama's tour of New Jersey and Mitt Romney's helping to gather supplies in Ohio as mere photo ops. Someone even said that Chris Christie's praise for Obama during this crisis is only a Republican being forced to accept the help that Obama has been offering for years. People, people — and I include myself in this — can't we get above all this? Support whom you want, but let's treat the other guy with some respect.

MELANIE N. LEE, VIA E-MAIL

It's time to share the wealth

RE: "BAILOUTS BOUGH US TIME" (METRO, NOV. 1) Column writer Michael J. Frosch claims that Mitt Romney had actually wanted a managed auto industry bankruptcy so that pay and benefits to auto workers could be reduced. Romney's Nov. 18, 2008, New York Times op-ed "Let Detroit Go Bankrupt" confirms that Frosch is partly right.

Tragically, Romney feels justified in calling for sacrifice by auto workers while he and auto executives make millions. The notion that great income differences benefit the nation is highly implausible, a myth that Republicans promote, for which millionaires and billionaires reward them with large campaign contributions.

ROSALIE ANDERS, VIA E-MAIL

Taxpayers fund heroes, too

For those with anti-government employee sentiments, I'd like to focus readers on the heroism exhibited by a Coast Guard helicopter rescue team that braved Hurricane Sandy off of the treacherous North Carolina coast to rescue 13 of sixteen crew members of the replica ship, HMS Bounty.

It is heartbreaking that the ship's captain and another that stayed behind to get everybody onto life boats before the ship sunk, went down with the ship.

The Coast Guard isn't the only federal employee group keeping the nation's entire East Coast safe. Also involved are the tens of thousands of federal employees and officers of the departments of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Guard, NASA, Veterans Affairs, HHS, Department of Transportation, Federal Aviation Administration, Army Corps of Engineers, Delaware River Basin Commission, Maritime Administration, NASA, National Ocean Service, NOAA which includes the National Weather Service, etc.

Truth be known, during our lifetime most Americans will receive some form of assistance from a federal worker — especially during disasters and emergencies.

AJ CASTILLA, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: letters@metro.us

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** An important objective can be achieved, but not necessarily in accordance with your original game plan. Be ready to make on-the-spot adjustments.

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** Don't allow your pride to cause you to cling to something that you would be better off renouncing. You need to be think about replacing unproductive concepts with effective ones.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** You'll have a difficult time keeping your priorities in order if you start to place greater emphasis on meaningless projects than you do on your serious ones.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Accumulated stress weighing on important relationships can be alleviated if you're more tolerant in your thinking.

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** Don't think the numerous assignments that you have to contend with need to be done all at once. The quickest way to accomplish things is to rank them in a prioritized list.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** Someone who is only looking out for his or her own affairs might try to entice you into an involvement that wouldn't serve your best interests at all. Be firm about declining.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** It's important to be extremely firm about your position when trying to smooth over a domestic disagreement. Don't point fingers at anyone.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Your chances for achieving success will be considerably enhanced if you're open-minded about altering your thoughts and/or tactics when given a good argument.

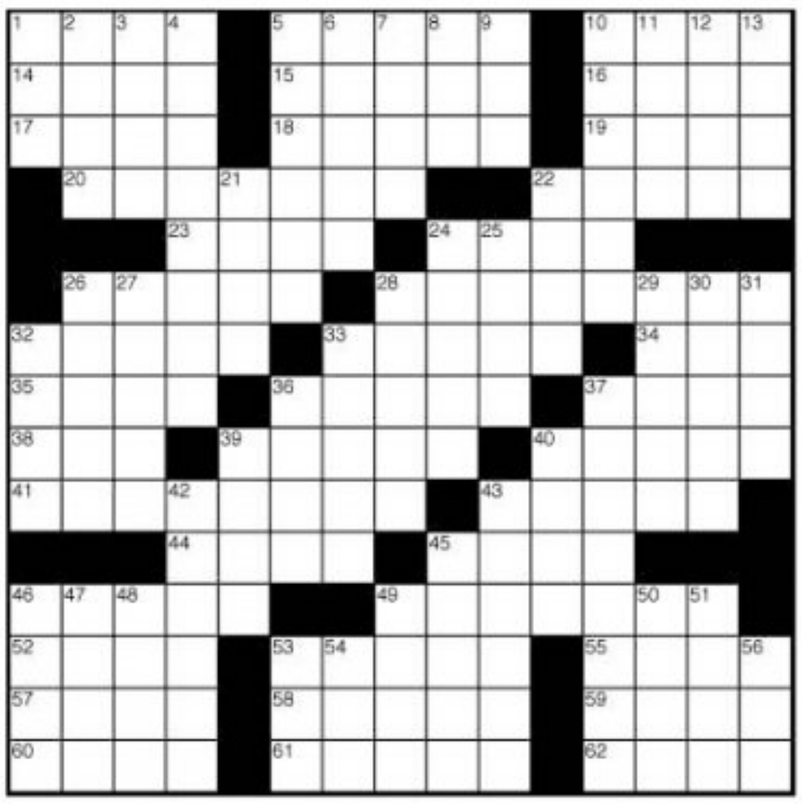
♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Certain adjustments can be made pertaining to a situation that has not worked out too well for you financially. If you employ your ingenuity, you can recover more than you thought.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** What you can't do with your muscles, you should be able to do with your brain. Instead of trying to bully your way through obstacles, use your smarts to think around them.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Because your first assessments are likely to be far too negative, none of them will serve your best interests. After you've taken time to study the situation, an alternative will be evident.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Do not let your emotions override your excellent reasoning. This becomes especially important if there's a chance that you'll be doing something constructive with someone you dislike.

BERNICE BEDE OSOL



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36 A Simpson
37 Hammerhead kin
38 Neighbor of CTRL
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41 Got a new hairdo
43 Ringlets
44 Ticks off
45 Rude person
46 Temple city of Japan
49 Fire breathers
52 Wield a hammer
53 Frozen rain
55 Attack of the flu
57 Failing that
58 Punjab potentate
59 Columnist — Bombeck
60 Dandelion, to some
61 Up and about
62 Big-city problem

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5 Jackpot games
6 Big pitchers
7 Dog-food brand
8 Billy — Williams
9 Sault — Marie
10 Bucolic
11 Pavarotti piece
12 In one – swoop
13 Tot
21 Pretzel coating
22 Hurried along
24 Hummingbirds do it
25 Finished
26 As long as
27 Mother's sisters
28 Like some stadiums
29 Arkansas range
30 Winnings
31 They often clash
32 Pole on a ship
33 Judge's duds
36 "Incredible" comics hero
37 Germs
39 Neophyte
40 Synthesizer inventor
42 Of the nobility
43 Hate heartily
45 Piece of good luck
46 Was informed
47 Ivy League member
48 River to the Seine
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51 Type of wrestling
53 Tijuana "Mrs."
54 Ordinance
56 Follow closely

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

Solution to weekend's crossword

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R	E	B	■	S	R	I	■	D	O	O	D	L	E	D
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H	O	W	C	O	M	E	■	L	T	D	■	K	O	I
■	■	A	N	A	■	E	L	S	■	F	E	D	S	■
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L	A	D	Y	S	S	L	I	P	P	E	R	■	■	■
Y	E	L	P	■	L	E	X	■	U	N	T	I	E	D
E	V	E	S	■	O	U	I	■	P	R	E	S	T	O
R	E	D	O	■	G	R	R	■	S	Y	S	T	E	M

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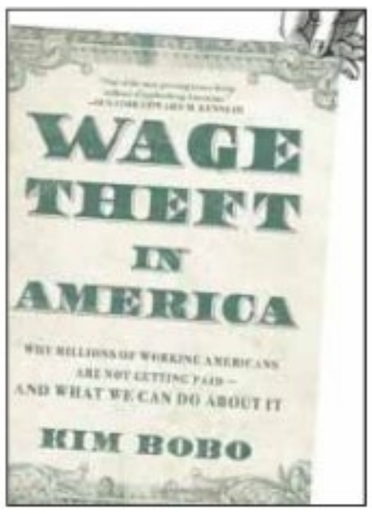
When your paycheck is missing something

Wage theft is common for low-wage workers How employers steal, and what employees can do about it

Kim Bobo founded Interfaith Worker Justice in 1996, a Chicago-based non-profit devoted to advancing employee rights. Her 2008 book, "Wage Theft in America: Why Millions of Working Americans Are Not Getting Paid — And What We Can Do About It," is, unfortunately, still plenty relevant today. We chatted with her about the most common employer abuses and most effective remedies.



How often does wage theft occur?
The largest surveys that have ever been done were coordinated by the National Employment Law Project. They showed that about a quarter of low-wage workers were not paid minimum wage. About 75 percent of those who worked overtime were not paid properly. The average low-wage worker looses $2,600 per year in unpaid wages. It's pretty staggering.

What are the most common ways employers steal money?
Not paying minimum wage or overtime are biggies. Employers often don't pay ex-employees their last check. That's blatantly illegal. Another big one is calling an employee an independent contractor, thus not paying the employer side of payroll taxes, workers comp, etc. There are legitimate independent contractors, but if your employer was the one that decided you were one, you're not.

Do workers typically know this is happening to them?
A lot of people don't know they are being cheated on overtime. If you earn below a certain amount annually, you must receive time-and-a-half after 40 hours, regardless of your title.

When the law is "employment at will," what can you do?
At-will employers still have to obey the law. If you find yourself in a situation where you think you are not being paid fairly, you need to try to change it. If you have a nice employer, you can talk to them. But that's often not the case. You can go to the state department of labor: Massachusetts, New York and Pennsylvania all have pretty good state laws on this issue. You can go to the federal Department of Labor for minimum wage and overtime. You can also discuss this with coworkers. If 20 of you have a problem, an attorney could be attracted to that.

BRUCE WALSH
bruce.walsh@metro.us

BRAND X PICTURES

▶ If some of this is yours, you need to claim it.

CREATAS

▶ Gossiping about coworkers will come back to haunt you.

Putting a stop to the workplace rumor mill

When you're a professional adult, it's hard to believe you could be prey to petty rumors — but it happens in offices as often as high schools. The best thing to do when coworkers are gossiping is too understand how to diffuse the situation, because a slap fight just isn't an option at work.

Keep it professional
You can't always stop people from spreading rumors about you, but you can avoid it by not giving coworkers something to talk about. "Some people make themselves targets for gossip by over-sharing personal information in the workplace," says Lynne Sarikas, executive director of Northeastern University's MBA Career Center. "Don't complain when rumors are circulating about your wild social life if you regularly come in on Monday morning with tales of your weekend antics."

Get at the heart of it
Chances are you have a good idea of who's responsible for dragging your name through the mud. Author and relationship expert April Masini of AskApril.com suggests confronting them, then going for the kill with kindness. "Focus on the rumor mill generators — it's usually two or three water cooler rats who love to stir the pot — and invite them to lunch, your treat. One at a time. Keep your friends close, and your enemies closer."

Don't participate
Gossip karma is real. "If you are with a group of colleagues that start gossiping about a co-worker, do not participate," advises Amanda Augustine, a job search expert at TheLadders. "Walk away from the situation or better yet, put the [gossiper] on the spot and nip [the rumor] in the bud." JULIA WEST

In the news

Young adults friending bosses on Facebook

One in four young adults between the ages of 18 and 25 are friends with their bosses on Facebook, a new study suggests.

A survey by security protection company AVG — which was conducted among 4,400 consumers in 11 countries — found young adults in the U.S. and Italy were most likely (both 33 percent) to friend bosses on the social network. Meanwhile, Facebook users in France were least likely to friend their bosses.

The study also revealed that 60 percent of Facebook users in the 18-25 age range who are Facebook friends with colleagues do not restrict any content from them. Topping the list of the countries with the least restrictive users is Japan (73 percent do not restrict), followed by the Czech Republic (70 percent).

In addition, Facebook users in Italy are most likely to vent their anger on the site (18 percent), compared to those in France and New Zealand (10 percent).

"Our research show that a good percentage of young adults between the ages of 18-25 do not filter personal or professional data or pictures that are posted online," AVG's Senior Security Evangelist Tony Anscombe told Mashable. "They need to pay closer attention to how they interact with their bosses, colleagues and friends via social channels, and ensure they don't negatively impact their future by sharing information in a careless manner."

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This right here leads to a major "in" — so keep in touch with your fellow grads.

After graduation, many students walk across that stage and never look back. But your alma mater is more than where you learned how to play Ultimate Frisbee — it can also be a great job search resource for recent graduates. Those years you spent ploughing through textbooks, attending lectures and skipping out early to head to the campus bar are shared experiences that connect you to a vast network of alumni. Here's how to make the most of your university's alumni networks in your job search:

Meet your fellow alumni in person

Since you're no longer on campus, many alumni networks organize events in major cities across the country so former students can get together for a glass of wine and some nostalgia. Similar to when you're e-connecting with your fellow graduates, you need to be targeted about who you connect with when you attend alumni events.

When you're speaking with fellow graduates, don't make it outright obvious that you're trying to use them for a job. No one likes being used. Instead, bond over shared experiences that you had at your university.

ISHANI NATH/TALENTEGG

— TalentEgg.com is a job board and online career resource for college students and recent graduates.

Connect with alumni online

Staying connected once you leave means more than glancing over those alumni newsletters once in a while. Making the most of your alumni network means connecting with grads from a variety of backgrounds.

That sounds like a lot of work, but social media makes it easy. Facebook can be filtered according to school network, and most users can be directly messaged. LinkedIn allows for a similar filtering system and, with the click of a profile, you can "get introduced" to an alumnus or alumna in your area of interest. But before you go spamming any and all users who once walked the same halls as you, you should know that recruiting agency McIntyre and Youngblood advises job seekers to be strategic with who they "friend." Reach out to people who are in the same industry that you want to get into or people who worked on the same club as you on campus. Have a solid reason for reaching out.

Do lunch like a seasoned pro

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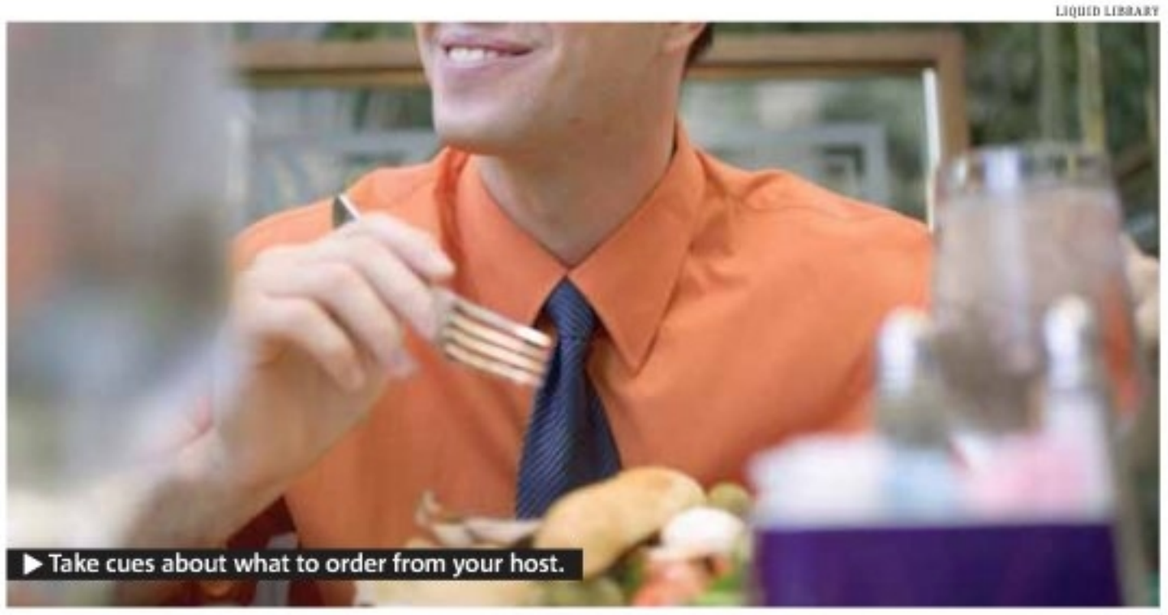

Take cues about what to order from your host.

Sitting down with clients or coworkers is about more than just sharing a meal. These luncheons can determine if you get the job, get the client or get the respect of your boss. The biggest mistake that people make at business lunches is assuming that being out of the office means they are no longer in a professional setting, says Linda Allan, a professional etiquette expert. "It doesn't matter how formal or informal the setting, the same standard of etiquette applies," she says.

What standard is that? Well, let's start at the beginning.

Pre-lunch: Dress appropriately. If you're going straight from work, this shouldn't be a problem, but if not, make sure you leave the plaid shirt and short shorts behind. A business lunch requires business wear.

If you have any dietary restrictions, check the menu or call ahead to make sure there's something that suits your palate.

Show up early: Punctuality and professionalism go hand in hand, and the best way to avoid being late is to show up a bit early. Allan recommends arriving around 10 minutes before your meeting. If you get to the restaurant before your host, wait in the lobby area.

What's on the menu?: When it comes to ordering, play follow the leader. If your host orders a salad, don't order the filet mignon. Try to match the price point and number of courses as your dining buddy. The same rules apply for drinks. If your host orders alcohol, you can — but it's by no means necessary. If you decide to sip on the good stuff, limit yourself to one order and drink it slowly.

Talking shop: The host generally decides when it's time to get down to business, says Allan. If you have questions that you really want answered, wait until after you've ordered. That will allow enough time for small talk and ensure that you get your answers.

ISHANI NATH/TALENTEGG

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Cell phone policy

Before you arrive to the restaurant, make sure your phone is on vibrate. If you end up waiting for your host, do not start messing around on your phone. Angry Birds may be a good way to pass the time, but if you're busy lining up the game-winning shot, you're likely to miss your contact.

Once seated, consider your phone forbidden territory. Put it away and don't check it for the rest of the meal. You're there to do business.

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Office Assistant - OfficeTeam of Cambridge is working with an exciting client in the publishing space to source an Office Assistant. Responsibilities include general administrative tasks such as filing, faxing and scanning of proposals. Ideal candidates will be detail-oriented with strong organizational skills and the ability to multitask. The Office Assistant must have high computer proficiency pertaining to digital publishing including MS Word with a good eye for recognizing possible errors and formatting issues. $10-14/hour.

Bilingual Intake Coordinator - OfficeTeam is working with a healthcare company in Boston in need of an English/Spanish bilingual candidate with experience calling insurance members and providers. The Intake Coordinator will be receiving incoming calls from members and providers. Calls will range in nature, but will require great customer service and the ability to troubleshoot and problem-solve. Additional ad hoc administrative support will also be asked of this candidate in the office. Attention to detail along with strong technical skills in Microsoft Office Suite are required. $11-15/hour.

Executive Assistant – An OfficeTeam client in the biotech industry is in need of an Executive Assistant to start immediately. The Executive Assistant will report directly to the CEO and be responsible for calendar management, answering and triaging calls, making travel arrangements, and overseeing basic Human Resource administrative duties. Additionally, the Executive Assistant will support the small team in the office by ordering office supplies, setting up conference rooms, and providing sales support. $15-20/hour.

To apply to any of these positions please send your resume to jesse.murray@officeteam.com with the subject: Metro Ad or call us at (617) 951-0036

3

In the news

Vote for Pedro

The Red Sox goodwill mission continued this past weekend as they seemed obsessed with bridging the success of the past with the lowly present.

First they re-signed veteran David Ortiz to a two-year deal. Yesterday, GM Ben Cherington told MLB.com that former ace Pedro Martinez could rejoin the organization in an undisclosed capacity in the near future.

"We've had discussions," Cherington said. "(Pedro) knows there is a role waiting for him when the time is right for him."

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▶ Rajon Rondo, Kevin Garnett and Jared Sullinger earned their first 'W' of the season this past weekend in Washington.

C's with some positive ID

◗ Three games into season, 1-2 Celtics look for progress ◗ Sullinger gets nod over Bass as starting power forward ◗ Team with a few days off before opening up early, tough stretch

Who are the Boston Celtics?

Well, much to the dismay of our instant gratification society, we likely won't know until Valentine's Day at the earliest.

Identity is a funny thing in sports. The Patriots are halfway through their 2012 season and their offense claims it does not yet have an offensive identity despite leading the league in several key statistical categories. The Celtics, despite having reserves Jeff Green and Jared Sullinger look like an unholy, latter-day pairing of James Worthy and Kevin McHale in the preseason, haven't even scratched the surface on what they will ultimately become in 2012-13.

Late in Boston's 89-86 victory over the Wizards in D.C. Saturday, we may have gotten our first tiny hint, however. The Celtics displayed one of the most important traits an NBA can show, that being the ability to close.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Brandon Bass will likely be coming off the bench going forward.

Jason Terry looked like the better version of Ray Allen that had been discussed ad nauseam since July as he calmly made two free throws with 1.2 seconds remaining to ensure the Celtics of at least overtime. Sullinger got the starting nod at the 4. Green led the Boston bench with 11 points.

All this came 24 hours after the Celtics were embarrassed in their home opener against the Bucks.

"When you lose two games in a row and you play as poorly as we played (Friday night), you're either going to come out with great intensity or we're still going to be thinking about (the night before) and get down 20," C's head coach Doc Rivers told ESPN about Boston's fast start Saturday night. "That cushion won the game for us."

The Celtics have three nights off before facing the Wizards again, this time at TD Garden Wednesday night (7:30 p.m., CSN). Boston will be home against the Sixers Friday night before a pair of road games in Milwaukee and Chicago.

10 Brandon Bass has scored an even 10 points per game this season but still lost his starting role to rookie Jared Sullinger.

MATT BURKE
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Heat unveil 'Bron banner

The Miami Heat already hang banners inside American Airlines Arena honoring former Chicago Bulls superstar Michael Jordan and former football player Dan Marino. They are now using up space in their relatively open rafters to honor LeBron James' gold medal in this past summer's Olympic games.

"To have a banner go up for the United States of America, you're not just representing the respective city that you're in or a team," James told ESPN. "You're representing everybody in America." METRO/MB

AL MESSERSCHMIDT/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Aqib Talib has sent mixed signals since entering the league in 2008.

Who is Aqib Talib?

◗ Troubled but talented cornerback could upgrade Patriots to Super Bowl favorite ◗ Secondary issues should fade if Talib has his head on straight

With as poorly has the Patriots secondary has played this season, Bill Belichick and staff made a move at the trade deadline to help bolster the depleted unit. The Patriots traded a 2013 fourth round pick to Tampa Bay for cornerback Aqib Talib and a 2013 seventh round pick just before last Thursday's deadline.

Following the release of cornerback Sterling Moore last Wednesday, it was apparent something was up, and the trade for Talib confirmed the suspicions. With the 2008 first rounder's (20th overall) contract set to expire at the end of the season the deal can be looked at as a low-risk, high-reward move, as unless he re-signs he will not return to the team in 2013.

Talib, who played at the University of Kansas, has had his fair share of disciplinary issues from the time he was drafted. At the 2008 NFL rookie symposium, he was involved in a fist-fight with a teammate. He has also been arrested twice since 2008 on charges of resisting arrest without violence and for simple battery after an altercation with a taxi driver.

In 2011, he was issued a felony warrant for aggravated assault with a deadly weapon. Talib was released on $25,000 bond and was indicted two months later, but the charges were later dropped.

He has also been suspended twice by the league — once for violating the league's conduct policy following his actions in 2008, and this season as he is currently serving a four-game suspension for violating the league's drug policy. He can return to action Nov. 18 when the Patriots host the Colts.

Talib claims he was using the drug Adderall without a prescription.

"I will work diligently every day of this suspension to stay in top football shape and be ready to help this team in the second half of the season," Talib said following the suspension. "I have chosen to be immediately accountable for the situation I put myself in, which is why I will not exercise my appeal rights and will begin serving the suspension immediately."

When he is able to get on the field, Talib possesses a great deal of talent. In 58 career games, the 6-foot-1 inch, 205-pound cornerback has recorded 53 pass breakups and 18 interceptions.

RYAN HANNABLE
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McCourty move

Last season and at times in 2012, the Patriots have experimented with Devin McCourty at safety.

- NFL Network reported yesterday that McCourty will now move from cornerback to safety on a permanent basis.
- Cornerbacks Kyle Arrington, Marquice Cole, Alfonzo Dennard, Tavon Wilson and Ras-I Dowling will see action at the other corner position. Sterling Moore, who was cut last week, signed with the Patriots practice squad this past weekend.

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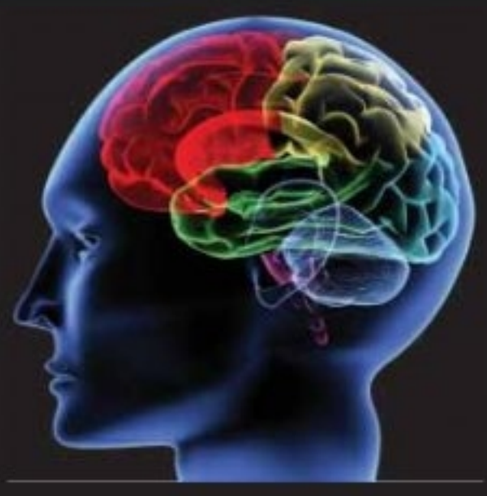

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GREGORY SHAMUS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Andrew Luck broke an NFL rookie record for passing yards yesterday against the Dolphins.

Colts spike Miami

◗ Indy helps out Pats in AFC East race ◗ Browns can't close out Ravens ◗ Chicago clobbers Titans ◗ Denver beginning to control AFC West

NFL roundup

On paper Week 9 looked to feature a bunch of dud games, but as everyone knows the league is full of parity and many of the games were far from being blowouts. The action from Week 9:

Indianapolis Colts 23
Miami Dolphins 20

The Colts improved to 4-1 at home with their three-point win over Miami. In a battle of rookie quarterbacks, Andrew Luck had a monster day throwing for 433 yards and two touchdowns, while Ryan Tannehill was also impressive throwing for 290 yards and a score. Indianapolis is now 5-3 and Miami is 4-4.

Baltimore Ravens 25
Cleveland Browns 15

The Ravens scored 11 fourth quarter points to come from behind to beat the Browns on the road. After going up 14-0, Baltimore saw Cleveland score the next 15 points, but a Torrey Smith touchdown catch and a Justin Tucker field goal completed the comeback and gave the Ravens the win. Baltimore is now 6-2, while Cleveland is 2-7.

Houston Texans 21
Buffalo Bills 9

Houston showed why it is considered one of the top teams in the AFC in its 21-9 win over the Bills. The Texans got productive days from both the passing and running games as Matt Schaub threw for 268 yards and two touchdowns while Arian Foster rushed for 111 yards and a touchdown. The Texans improve to 7-1 while Buffalo is now 3-5.

Denver Broncos 31
Cincinnati Bengals 23

Denver held off the Bengals in a wild game as the teams combined to score 41 second half points. Peyton Manning threw for 291 yards and three touchdowns in the win, but he did throw two interceptions. On the other side of the field, Andy Dalton threw for 299 yards and a touchdown in the loss. Denver is now 5-3 while Cincinnati is 3-5.

Chicago Bears 51
Tennessee Titans 20

In the most lopsided game of the day, the Bears demolished the Titans on the road. Chicago's defense and special teams were the story as it scored a touchdown apiece in the win. Wide receiver Brandon Marshall also had his best game of the year catching three touchdown passes. The Bears are now 7-1 and in control of the NFC North while the Titans fell to 3-6.

Green Bay Packers 31
Arizona Cardinals 17

Led by Aaron Rodgers' four touchdown passes the Packers defeated the Cardinals at home. LaRod Stephens-Howling ran for 51 yards and a touchdown in the loss. Green Bay improves to 6-3 while Arizona is now 4-5.

Carolina Panthers 21
Washington Redskins 13

Carolina got a much needed road win in its seven-point win over the Redskins. Cam Newton threw for 201 yards and a touchdown, while adding a rushing touchdown in the win. Redskins quarterback Robert Griffin III passed for 215 yards and ran for 53 yards in the loss.

Fantasy Player of the Day: Doug Martin, Tampa Bay. 25 carries, 251 yards, 4 touchdowns.

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sports@metro.us

Crucial wins

A look at other scores around the league:

Steelers 24, Giants 20
Isaac Redman rumbled for 147 yards and a touchdown as Pittsburgh (5-3) showed it means business in the NFL's grand picture.

Bucs 42, Raiders 32
Doug Martin dominated Oakland as he ran for a whopping 251 yards and four touchdowns.

Lions 31, Jags 14
Detroit rolled to a 17-point win on the road led by Mikel Leshoure, who rushed for 70 yards and three touchdowns.

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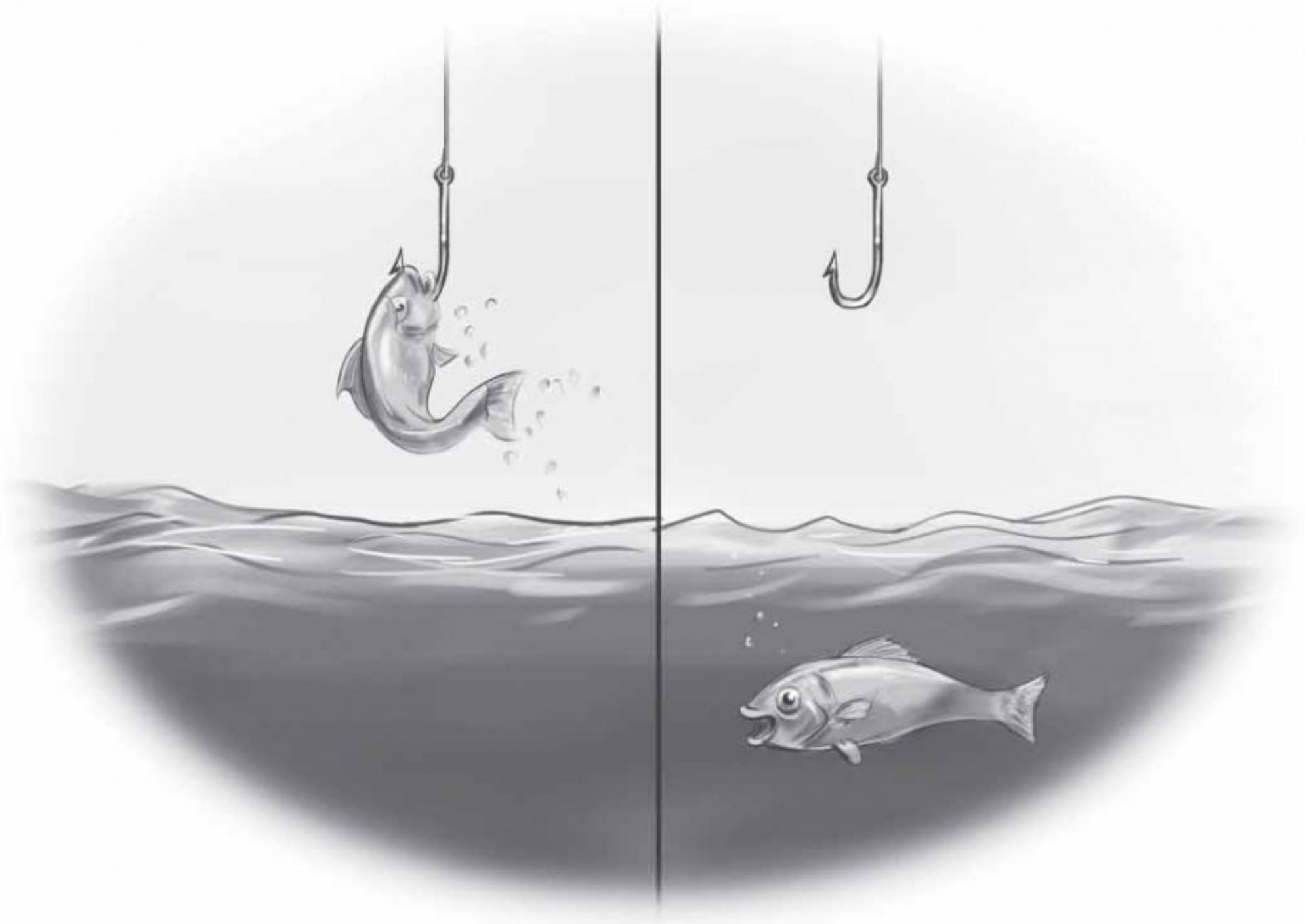

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